

Applicants : John P. Biel, Jr. et al
Serial No. : 09/889,646
Confirmation : 8649
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached three sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 4 and 20 to correct those errors noted by the Examiner. More specifically, in Fig. 1, the reference numeral 32' has been deleted, and the reference numeral 49'' has been added. In Fig. 4, the reference numeral 97 and associated leader line have been moved, and reference numerals 97' and 97'' have been added. In Fig. 20, the reference numeral 130A has been added.

Attachment: Three (3) Replacement Sheets

Three (3) Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

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Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

The Examiner's remarks have been received and carefully considered. Claims 37, 38 and 55 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 17, 21, 25, 30, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49 and 50 have been amended.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's comment that claims 6, 9-14, 32-36, 39-43, 47, 51-54, and 56-57 are allowed, and that claims 17-32, 37-38, 44-46, 48-50, and 55 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (second paragraph). Applicants have made those changes necessary to overcome each of the objections noted by the Examiner, such that all pending claims are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance.

Each of the drawing errors noted by the Examiner in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Office action have been corrected.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the noted informalities in the specification, the application has been amended to correct each noted error.

The Examiner rejected claims 17-32, 37-38, 44-46, 48-50, and 55 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 (second paragraph) as being indefinite. Claims 37 and 55 have been canceled without prejudice, such that the associated rejections are deemed moot. Claims 17, 25, 30 have been

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amended to provide proper antecedent basis, and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants have made a concerted effort to place this application in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner believes there are additional informalities, the courtesy of a telephone call Applicants' attorney would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN P. BIEL, JR. ET AL

By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper, DeWitt &
Litton, LLP



Carl S. Clark
Registration No. 28 288
695 Kenmoor S.E.
P.O. Box 2567
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501
616/949-9610

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and all identified enclosures and attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on

1/4/05



Carl S. Clark

CSC/jkrp
Enclosures

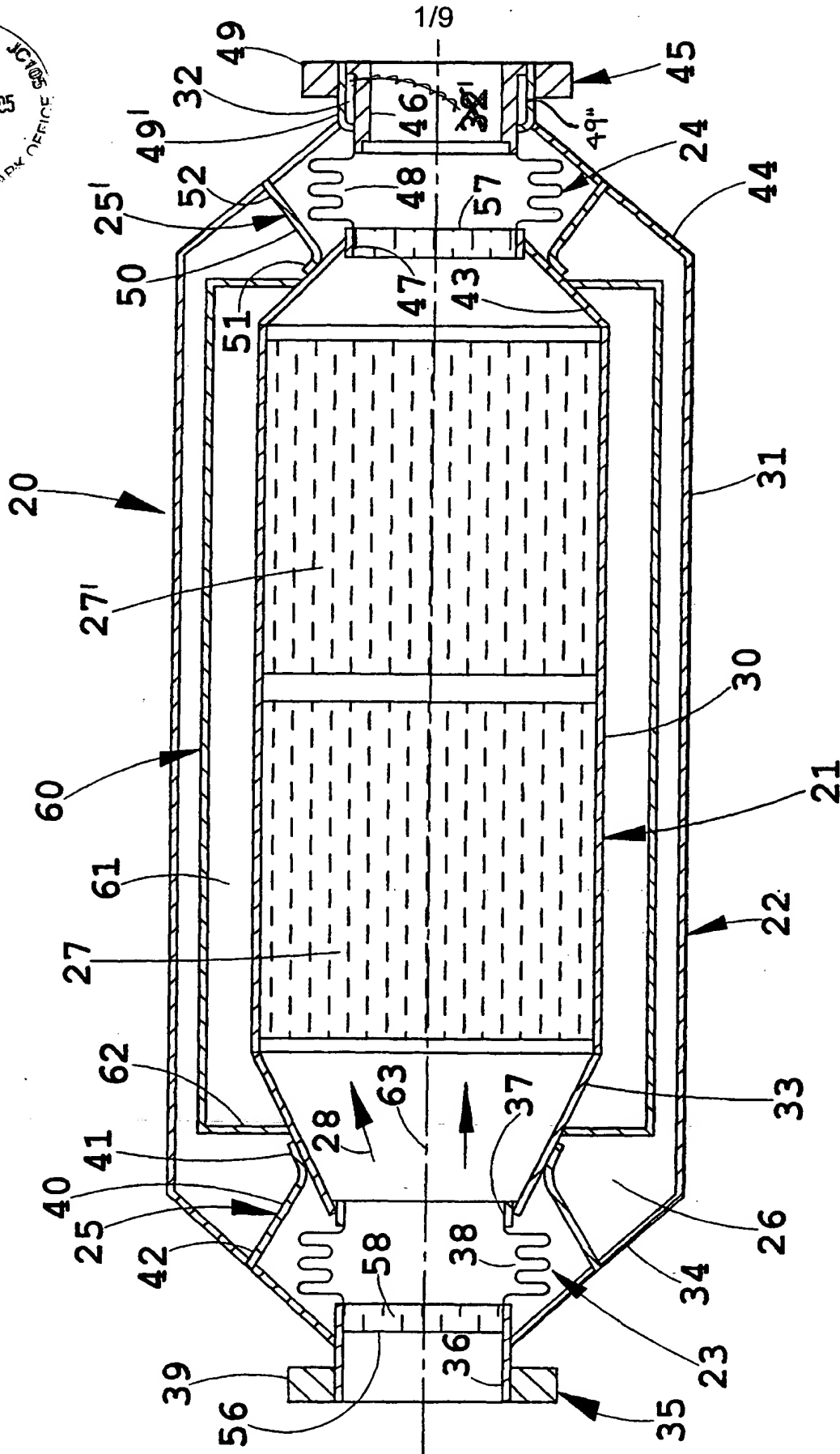


FIG. 1

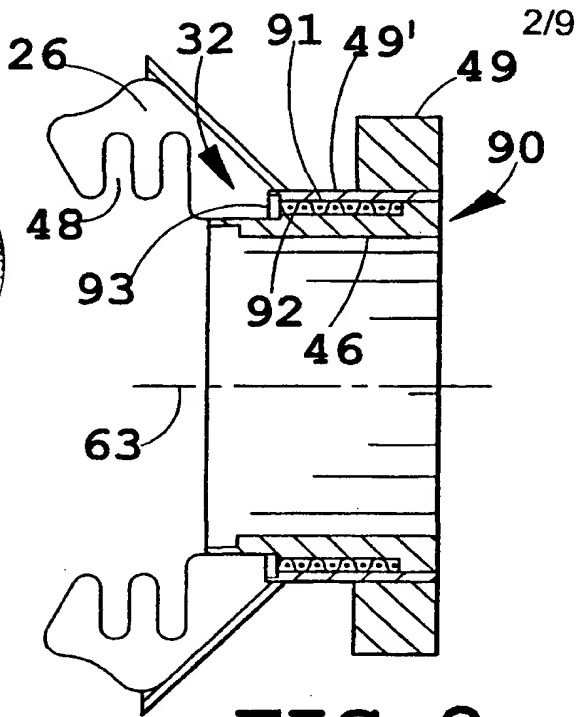


FIG. 2

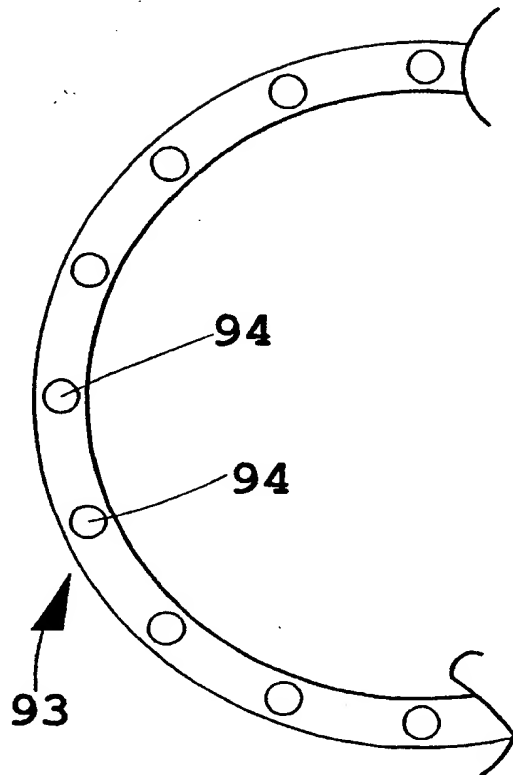


FIG. 3

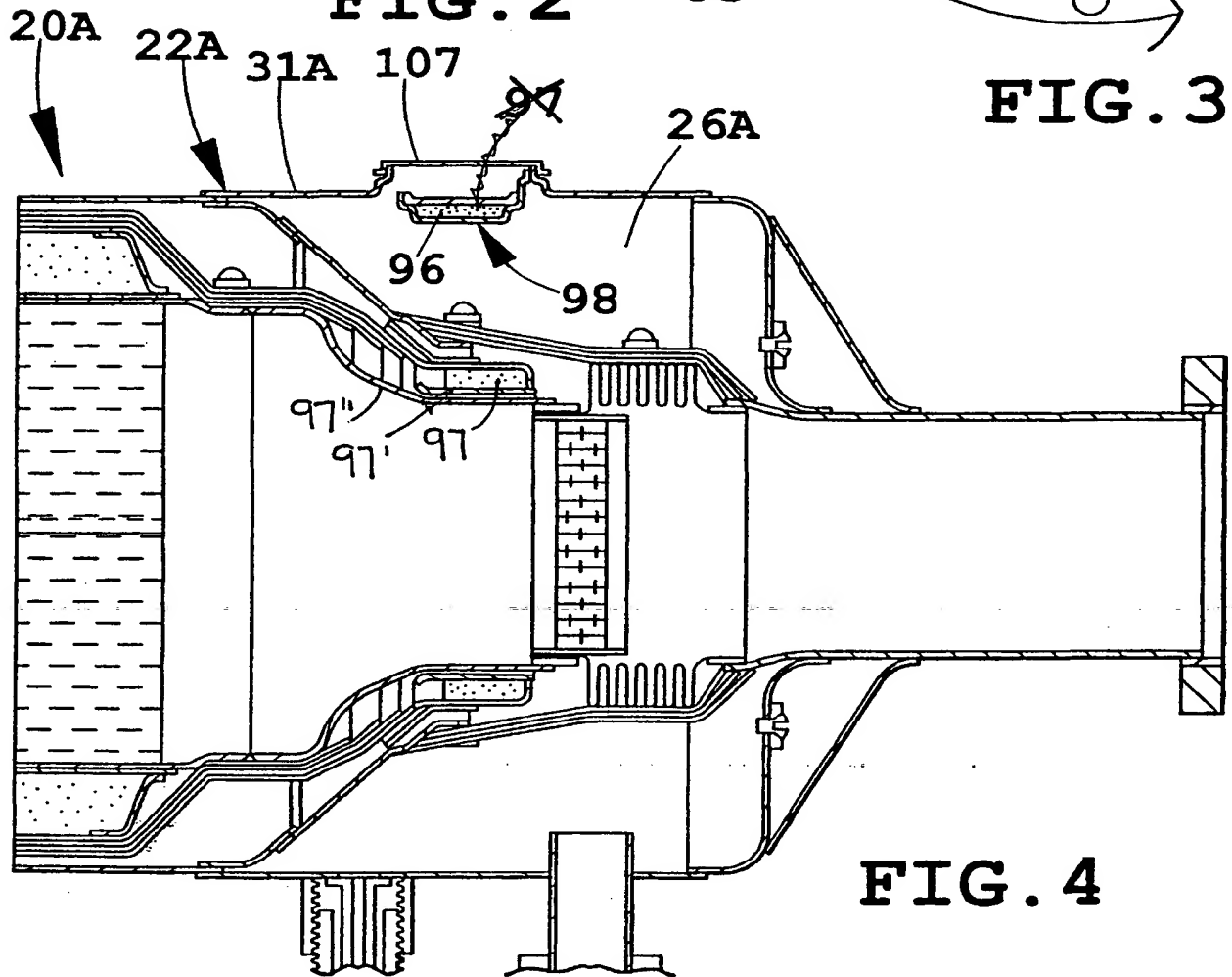
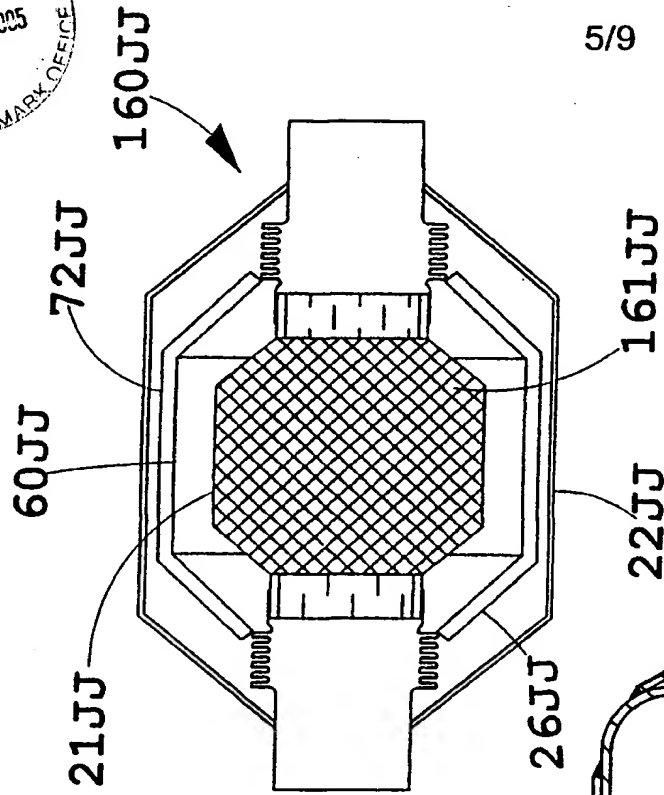


FIG. 4



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FIG. 28

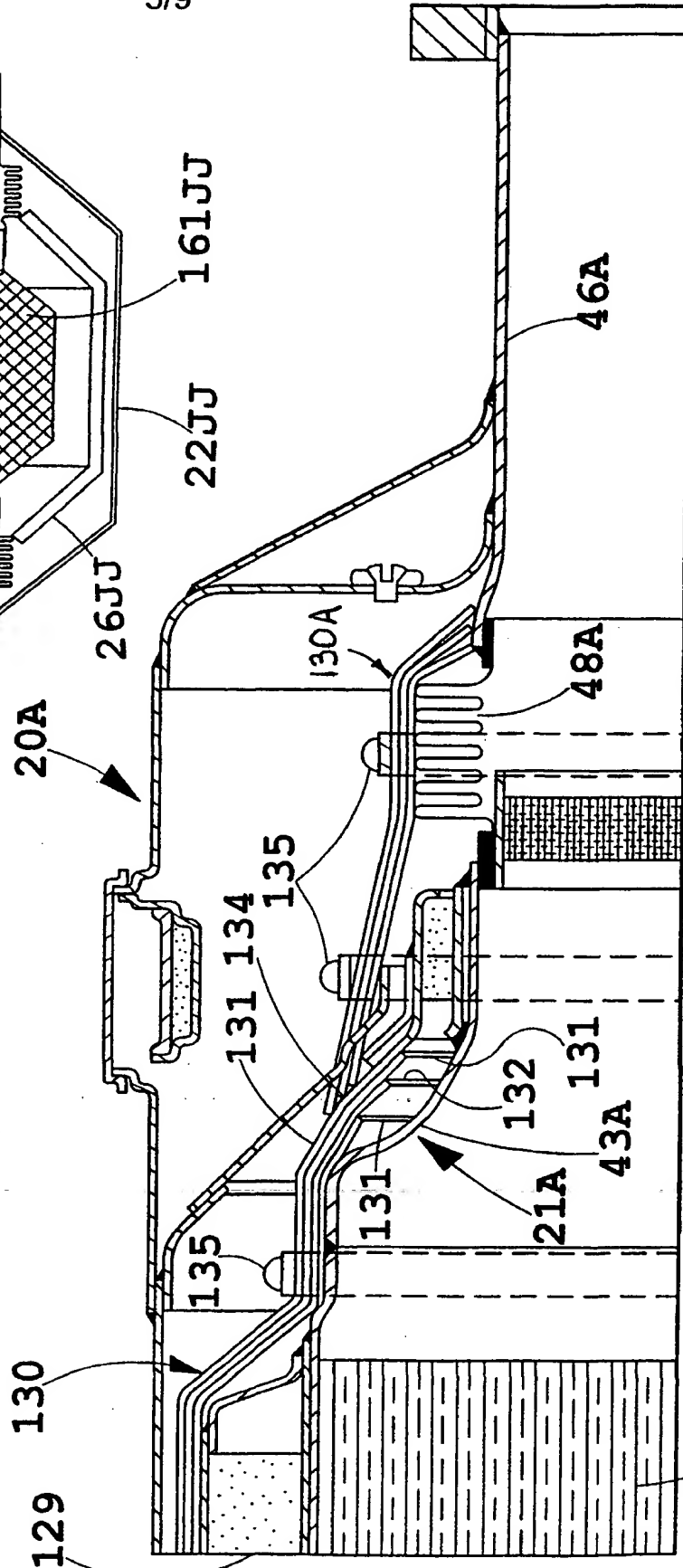


FIG. 20

27A'